

Memorandum

To: Chair and Commissioners

Date: August 5, 2005

From: Diane C. Eidam
Executive Director

File No:
Book Item 2.2c.(3)
Action

Ref: **Third Main Track and Seven Grade Separations Project, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway East-West Main Line Railroad Track – Future Consideration of Funding (Notice of Determination) (TCRP #35.2, #54.2 and #54.3) Resolution E-05-16**

Issue:

Should the Commission adopt the attached resolution to approve future consideration of funding for three Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) projects contained within the completed Third Main Track and Seven Grade Separations Project Final Environmental Impact Report?

Recommendation:

Commission staff recommends that the Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-05-16. As a responsible agency, the Commission must approve this Resolution prior to allocating funds for capital purposes on the proposed project.

Background:

The California Department of Transportation, Division of Rail, proposes the installation of a third main track over the 14.7 mile segment of the existing alignment and the installation of up to seven grade separations. The project location includes the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) rail corridor which extends from the City of Commerce (Hobart – MP 148.6) about 14.7 miles to the City of Fullerton (Basta Station – MP 163.3). The affected jurisdictions include Los Angeles and Orange Counties and the Cities of Buena Park, Commerce, Fullerton, La Mirada, Montebello, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, and Santa Fe Springs.

This resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following TCRP projects which were included in a Final Environmental Impact Report completed under the California Environmental Quality Act:

- TCRP #35.2 – Pacific Surfliner; triple track intercity rail line within Los Angeles County and add run-through-tracks through Los Angeles Union Station in Los Angeles County - Triple track
- TCRP #54.2 – Alameda Corridor East; build grade separations on Burlington North Santa Fe and Union Pacific railroads, from downtown Los Angeles to the Los Angeles County line - Santa Fe Springs
- TCRP #54.3 – Alameda Corridor East; build grade separations on Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Union Pacific railroads, from downtown Los Angeles to the Los Angeles County line - Pico Rivera

The TCRP projects represent two grade separations and five miles of the 14.7 miles contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report. This project will have a less than significant effect on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures.

The current estimate for the TCRP projects is \$132,270,048, of which \$106,385,000 in funding will be provided through TCRP Projects #35.2, #54.2 and #54.3. The remaining \$25,885,048 will come from committed local, federal and other state funding sources. The remaining 9.7 miles and five grade separations will be completed upon the receipt of committed funds from local, federal and other state funding sources.

The Department of Transportation has approved the Final Environmental Impact Report and has filed a Notice of Determination for this project. The Commission's approval and the resulting filing of the attached Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Approval of Project for Future Consideration of Funding Third Main Track and Seven Grade Separations Project (Los Angeles County)

Resolution E-05-16

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Transportation has completed a Final Environmental Impact Report in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission Environmental Regulations for the following project:
 - **Third Main Track and Seven Grade Separations Project**
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered information contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will have a less than significant effect on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby approve the above-referenced project for future consideration of funding.